UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1996/1041
16 December 1996
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 12 DECEMBER 1996 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 11 December 1996 addressed to you by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq, concerning statements made by former Turkish officials confirming that there has been a conspiracy ever since 1991 to partition Iraq and separate its northern region and that the imposition of the no-flight zone in northern Iraq in 1991 was part of the process of implementing this scheme.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

96-36548 (E) 161296 161296 171296

/...

Annex

Letter dated 11 December 1996 from the Deputy Prime Minister and Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the Secretary-General

I should like to communicate to you reported statements made by Mr. Kenan Evren, a former President of Turkey, to the Turkish newspaper Cumhuriyet on 9 November 1996 concerning "the oil of the Iraqi Vilayet of Mosul" and a plan for "the occupation of a part of Iraqi territory in the north". This is clear from the following text:

> "Question: You mentioned Mosul's oil, so I should like to ask a question on that. Turgut Özal's idea was 'put down one and take five'. Would it have been correct and preferable if we had entered Iraq at that time?
>
> "Answer: Özal explained the idea to me, and I said to him 'You will become embroiled that way, because if you were to get involved in a matter with the Arabs you would never be able to extricate yourself, particularly since the United Nations resolution refers to the need for regard for Iraq's territorial integrity. So this idea cannot be accepted by any other country. Cyprus is a small matter, but it is still not over. So how would it be if we went into Iraq?'"

These statements confirm what we have been saying all along, namely that in 1991 and subsequently there was a conspiracy to partition Iraq and to separate the north and that the unilateral decision of the United States and French Governments at that time to impose a no-flight zone in northern Iraq was part of the process of implementing this scheme. It will be obvious to you that the Governments of the United States and the United Kingdom are still insisting on maintaining this zone and are pursuing the self-same policy that is linked with the scheme in question.

You will agree with me that attempts to threaten Iraq's sovereignty, territorial integrity and stability such as those indicated above are totally incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant Security Council resolutions and that they undermine security and stability in the region. This requires that the international community should take heed of such attempts and should oppose them.

(Signed) Tariq AZIZ
Deputy Prime Minister and
Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq